# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RAILWAYS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3034
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008
INCIDENTS OF LOOTING IN THE TRAINS AND AT THE RAILWAY STATIONS
Singh Shri Rakesh

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether there has been incidents of looting of passengers in the trains / Railway Stations by offering them drinks/ eatables laced with sedatives;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents occurred during the last three years in the country particularly in the Western Central Railway zone, Jabalpur, year-wise; and

(c) the details of the efforts made by the railways to prevent such incidents and to ensure fear-free journey for the passengers?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS( SHRI R. VELU )

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The number of incidents of drugging of passengers by offering them drinks/ eatables etc. laced with sedatives are reported over Indian Railways and West Central Railway during the last three years are as under :-

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Year  Number of Cases Reported over


  Zonal Railways
West Central Railway
2005  548
    57

2006
  714
    57

2007
  723
    51
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(c): It is pertinent to mention that maintenance of law and order is a State subject and powers to investigate and prosecute in IPC crimes are vested with Police. Registration,detection and investigation of IPC crimes like looting of passengers in the trains/Railway stations by offering them drinks/ eatables laced with sedative, are the responsibility of Government Railway Police which works under the control of the State Governments and as such, Ministry of Railways has to depend largely on them for control of crime over Railways.

Inspite of the above fact, Railways is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force staff to escort trains for security of passengers.Following preventive measures are being taken to prevent incidents of drugging in trains and Railway premises:-

1. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with local police and GRP for better exchange of intelligence regarding criminal gangs indulging in such activities and joint strategy are formulated to effectively contain the crime.

2. Affected/vulnerable stations and trains have been identified and more attention is being paid to identify sections/trains to avert occurrence of such cases. Decoy checks are also being conducted at affected stations and in affected trains to apprehend the culprits red-handed.

3. All Thana In-charges have been instructed to conduct drives against persons indulging in drugging offences in trains, platforms and passenger areas.

4. The train escorting parties are being briefed to remain extra vigilant in trains at the affected stations/ sections.

5. All out efforts are being made in coordination with GRP/ City Police to collect and share criminal intelligence for the apprehension of the offenders.

6. Regular announcements are frequently being made through Public Address System and use of loud hailers at the general coaches of the trains and during line bandobast to sensitize passengers to desist from purchasing/ accepting eatables from unauthorized hawkers & unknown persons while traveling by train or at the platform.

7. Posters/ Pamphlets with cautionary indication against the menace of drugging are being circulated and pasted at conspicuous places at the station and in the trains to create awareness amongst the traveling passengers.

8. Videography of persons standing in queue for boarding general coaches are being done to identify the offenders in cases of such incidents.

9. Photographs of culprits involved in the drugging cases have been circulated to all Thanas and provided with escorting staff.

10. Specific guidelines have also been issued by the DG/RPF for preparation of appropriate plans to effectively control the incidents of drugging on Railways. Anti drugging cells are being set up at each Zonal Railways Hqrs. under the command of a Gazetted Officer, which will examine in detail each and every case of drugging reported and take all preventive measures.

11. It is to mention that 81 offenders indulging in drugging of passengers have been arrested by Railway Protection Force during 2007 and handed over to Government Railway Police for further legal action.